

Add claim 22:

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--22. A system for maintaining a database comprising:
an interface for receiving signals in establishing a communication connection with
the user, one or more databases associated with the user being identified based on the
received signals;
a receiver for receiving from a user a request for taking an action concerning a
selected one of the databases through the established communication connection, the
action being associated with an access right requirement;
a processor for identifying an access right of the user concerning the selected
database; and
a device for taking the action when the access right of the user meets the access
right requirement.--

[Add claim 23:]

--23. The system of claim 22 wherein the database includes information
concerning an individual.--

[Add claim 24:]

--24. The system of claim 22 wherein the database includes information
concerning a group.--

[Add claim 25:]

--25. The system of claim 22 wherein the action includes reading the selected
database.--

[Add claim 26:]

1 --26. The system of claim 22 wherein the action includes editing the selected
2 database.--

[Add claim 27:]

1 --27. The system of claim 22 wherein the action includes deleting the selected
2 database.--

[Add claim 28:]

1 --28. The system of claim 22 wherein the communication connection includes a
2 telephone connection.--

[Add claim 29:]

1 --29. The system of claim 22 wherein the communication connection includes an
2 Internet connection.--

[Add claim 30:]

1 --30. A system for maintaining a directory through a provider of directory
2 assistance comprising:
3 an interface for receiving from a user a request for taking an action concerning the
4 directory, the user being allocated a level of access to the directory selected from a
5 plurality of access levels, the provider being accorded at least the level of access to the
6 directory allocated to the user; and
7 a processor for determining whether the provider is allowed to take the action
8 based on the level of access accorded to the provider, the action being initiated by the
9 provider if it is determined that the provider is allowed to take the action.--

[Add claim 31:]

- 1 --31. The system of claim 30 wherein the directory includes information
2 concerning an individual.--

[Add claim 32:]

- 1 --32. The system of claim 30 wherein the directory includes information
2 concerning a group.--

[Add claim 33:]

- 1 --33. The system of claim 30 wherein the provider includes an operator in a
2 directory assistance center.--

[Add claim 34:]

- 1 --34. The system of claim 30 wherein the level of access allocated to the user
2 includes a right to read the directory.--

[Add claim 35:]

- 1 --35. The system of claim 30 wherein the level of access allocated to the user
2 includes a right to delete the directory.--

[Add claim 36:]

- 1 --36. The system of claim 30 wherein the level of access allocated to the user
2 includes a right to edit the directory.--

[Add claim 37:]

- 1 --37. The system of claim 30 wherein the level of access allocated to the user

2 includes a right to allocate to another user a level of access to the directory.--

[Add claim 38:]

1 --38. The system of claim 30 wherein the request is received through a
2 communications connection.--

[Add claim 39:]

1 --39. The system of claim 38 wherein the communications connection includes a
2 telephone connection.--

[Add claim 40:]

A) 1 --40. The system of claim 38 wherein the communications connection includes an
2 Internet connection.--

[Add claim 41:]

1 SUB C2) --41. A system for providing a communications service using a database
2 comprising:
3 an interface for receiving from a user a request for communicating with a desired
4 party;
5 a first device for searching the database for contact information concerning the
6 desired party, the contact information being associated with an access right requirement;
7 a second device for initiating a communications connection between the user and
8 the desired party;
9 a processor for identifying an access right of the user concerning the contact
10 information; and
11 a controller for allowing disclosure of the contact information to the user when the

12 access right of the user satisfies the access right requirement.--

E [Add claim 42:]

1 --42. The system of claim 41 wherein the communications service includes a
2 voice communications service.--

E [Add claim 43:]

1 --43. The system of claim 41 wherein the database includes a directory.--

AE [Add claim 44:]

1 --44. The system of claim 43 wherein the communications service includes a
2 directory assistance service.--

[Add claim 45:]

1 --45. The system of claim 41 wherein the access right of the user includes a right
2 to learn the contact information.--

E [Add claim 46:]

1 --46. The system of claim 41 wherein the communication connection includes a
2 telephone connection.--

[Add claim 47:]

1 --47 A method for maintaining a database comprising:
2 receiving signals in establishing a communication connection with the user;
3 identifying one or more databases associated with the user based on the received
4 signals;

5 receiving from a user a request for taking an action concerning a selected one of
6 the databases through the established communication connection, the action being
7 associated with an access right requirement;
8 identifying an access right of the user concerning the selected database; and
9 taking the action when the access right of the user meets the access right
10 requirement.--

[Add claim 48:]

1 --48. The method of claim 47 wherein the database includes information
2 concerning an individual.--

[Add claim 49:]

1 --49. The method of claim 47 wherein the database includes information
2 concerning a group.--

[Add claim 50:]

1 --50. The method of claim 47 wherein the action includes reading the selected
2 database.--

[Add claim 51:]

1 --51. The method of claim 47 wherein the action includes editing the selected
2 database.--

[Add claim 52:]

1 --52. The method of claim 47 wherein the action includes deleting the selected
2 database.--

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[Add claim 53:]

1 --53. The method of claim 47 wherein the communication connection includes a
2 telephone connection.--

[Add claim 54:]

1 --54. The method of claim 47 wherein the communication connection includes an
2 Internet connection.--

[Add claim 55:]

1 --55. A method for maintaining a directory through a provider of directory
2 assistance comprising:
3 receiving from a user a request for taking an action concerning the directory, the
4 user being allocated a level of access to the directory selected from a plurality of access
5 levels, the provider being accorded at least the level of access to the directory allocated to
6 the user;
7 determining whether the provider is allowed to take the action based on the level
8 of access accorded to the provider; and
9 initiating the action by the operator if it is determined that the provider is allowed
10 to take the action.--

[Add claim 56:]

1 --56. The method of claim 55 wherein the directory includes information
2 concerning an individual.--

[Add claim 57:]

1 --57. The method of claim 55 wherein the directory includes information

2 concerning a group.--

[Add claim 58:]

1 --58. The method of claim 55 wherein the provider includes an operator in a
2 directory assistance center.--

[Add claim 59:]

1 --59. The method of claim 55 wherein the level of access allocated to the user
2 includes a right to read the directory.--

[Add claim 60:]

1 --60. The method of claim 55 wherein the level of access allocated to the user
2 includes a right to delete the directory.--

[Add claim 61:]

1 --61. The method of claim 55 wherein the level of access allocated to the user
2 includes a right to edit the directory.--

[Add claim 62:]

1 --62. The method of claim 55 wherein the level of access allocated to the user
2 includes a right to allocate to another user a level of access to the directory.--

[Add claim 63:]

1 --63. The method of claim 55 wherein the request is received through a
2 communications connection.--

[Add claim 64:]

1 --64. The method of claim 63 wherein the communications connection includes a
2 telephone connection.--

[Add claim 65:]

1 --65. The method of claim 63 wherein the communications connection includes
2 an Internet connection.--

[Add claim 66:]

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1 SUB C47 --66. A method for providing a communications service using a database
2 comprising:
3 receiving from a user a request for communicating with a desired party;
4 searching the database for contact information concerning the desired party, the
5 contact information being associated with an access right requirement;
6 initiating a communications connection between the user and the desired party;
7 identifying an access right of the user concerning the contact information; and
8 allowing disclosure of the contact information to the user when the access right of
9 the user satisfies the access right requirement.--

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[Add claim 67:]

1 --67. The method of claim 66 wherein the communications service includes a
2 voice communications service.--

[Add claim 68:]

1 --68. The method of claim 66 wherein the database includes a directory.--